



NEW JERSEY SENATE

DAILY RECORD

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OFFICE OF THE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

2009 JUL -7 AM 11:30

REC'D

June 23, 2009

The Honorable Lisa Jackson
Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20460

RE: Raritan Bay Slag - EPA-HQ-SFUND-2009-0062

Dear Administrator Jackson:

I would like to offer my full support for including the Raritan Bay Slag site on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's National Priority List (NPL), also known as Superfund Sites.


As a State Senator representing the 18th Legislative District in Middlesex County, I recognize the serious environmental and public health concerns posed by the site for residents of Middlesex County. According to recent studies by the EPA, the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services, and the U.S. Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry these contaminated areas along the Raritan Bay in Old Bridge and Sayreville contain high levels of lead in soil and surface water.

Although the USEPA has taken some measures to restrict public access, these measures do not sufficiently limit public or environmental exposure. In order to protect human health and well-being, the source areas of the slag should be removed and contaminated sediments in Raritan Bay and its tributaries must be immediately remediated. By adding this site to the National Priority List, much needed funding and clean-up actions may commence.

In addition, to the environmental harm posed by the site, contamination is harming the economy of the Raritan Bayshore community. If this Superfund cleanup is not fast-tracked, it has the potential to devastate the economic viability of dozens of towns and their business communities along the Raritan Bayshore.

It is my understanding that EPA is currently assessing this site. Once the site has been placed on the NPL, I respectfully request that you expedite the investigation and cleanup of all slag and slag-related contamination at Raritan Bay.

Regards,


Senator Barbara Buono
State Legislator, 18th District

BB/lr

Cc: Mr. Dennis Munhall
USEPA, Region 2

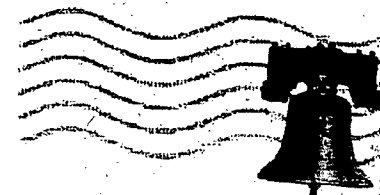
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